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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)

DATE DISTR. 23 May 1950

SUBJECT Airfields near Poltava

NO. OF PAGES 2

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1. A large airfield was on the northwestern perimeter of Poltava (34°33'E/49°35'N), Ukrainian SSR. All hangars were destroyed except for one which was in operation.
2. An explosion occurred on Saturday before Whitsunday 1946 causing considerable damage to buildings, unroofing many houses, and injuring persons.
3. The field was occupied by about 200 twin-engine aircraft, similar to the He-111.
4. There was the following flying activity:
 - a. Individual and formation flying with twin-engine planes
 - b. Parachuting from twin-engine transports of US make. There were many woman-parachutists.
5. AAA firing was occasionally practiced at a sleeve target towed by a plane.

Document No. 9
No Change In Class. ☒
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Class. Changed To: TS S C
Auth: HF 70-2
Date: 15 JUN 1978
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6. The airfield was about 4 km east of Holtava, southwest of Paraskovye (34°47'E/49°36'N), between the two railroad lines leading to Kharkov (36°15'E/50°00'N) and Lozovaya (36°19'E/48°54'N). The construction of the field started in 1945 in a formerly wooded area. A runway extended in E-W direction.
7. Brick barracks buildings for flying personnel were under construction in the woods on the northern edge of the field. The construction of six underground hangars, each 60 meters square and 15 to 20 meters below the surface, was almost completed in the eastern section of the field. There was a railroad connection from the north.

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Comment:

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a. Only one post-war report has been received on the airfield northwest of Holtava. The information of this report generally confirms the reconstruction and occupation of the field between 1945 and 1947. At that time the field was apparently occupied by bomber units. Reports of a more recent date are not available.

b. The information on a new airfield east of Holtava is received for the first time. Its correctness is, however, doubted

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